

Why is arts education important for children and youth?

Clearly on-going research* about arts education for children and youth speak to the benefits of arts learning:

Why the Arts Change the Learning Experience

- The arts reach students who are not otherwise being reached.
- The arts reach students in ways that they are not otherwise being reached.
- The arts connect students to themselves and each other.
- The arts transform the environment for learning.
- The arts provide learning opportunities for the adults in the lives of young people.
- The arts provide new challenges for those students already considered successful.
- The arts connect learning experiences to the world of real work.

How the Arts Change the Learning Experience

- Enable young people to have direct involvement with the arts and artists.
- Require significant staff development.
- Support extended engagement in the artistic process.
- Encourage self-directed learning.
- Promote complexity in the learning experience.
- Allow management of risk by the learners.
- Engage community leaders and resources.

(*Extract from *Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning*, a 1999 report that compiles seven major studies that provide new evidence of enhanced learning and achievement when students are involved in a variety of arts experiences. Full report can be viewed at <http://aep-arts.org/>)

Utah PTA thanks the following:



Other arts education resources for Utah schools:

Professional Outreach Program in schools (POPS) -

<http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/FineArt/POPS/>

Utah Arts Council (UAC) -

www.arts.utah.gov

Utah State Office of Education (USOE) -

<http://www.usoe.k12.ut.us/curr/FineArt/>



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Utah PTA Arts Education Fund

Utah PTA endeavors to ensure children's access to dance, music, theatre, and visual arts in Utah public schools



Benefiting PTA schools across the state through learning in the arts

Throughout its history, Utah PTA has supported and promoted arts education in Utah public schools. In 2002, Utah PTA approached Eric Dowdle with the idea of asking him to paint a work specifically for Utah PTA. The vision of Eric and key individuals in Utah PTA grew to include the dream to provide an arts funds accessible for PTA schools for art supplies, musical instruments, theatre costumes, artists, etc. The original painting hangs in his gallery at Thanksgiving Point. Images of that painting appear on posters, prints and his well-known jigsaw puzzles distributed nation-wide. Now, Utah PTA is the beneficiary of a percentage of the proceeds from Eric's painting, "School Carnival" that supports the establishment of the Utah PTA/ Dowdle Arts Education Fund. It is the hope of Utah PTA that the arts education fund will continue to grow as other individuals and organizations contribute their support.



JoAnn Neilson

What is the Utah PTA Arts Education Fund?

It is a fund that supports local PTA efforts for arts education activities in their school. Funds are granted (1:1) one dollar for each dollar contributed by the local unit.



"School Carnival" by Eric Dowdle

Who is eligible to apply for Utah PTA Arts Education Funds?

Any local PTA/PTSA (with bylaws and membership in good standing)

For what may requested funds be used?

- The creation or enhancement of an existing arts program or project
- Art supplies, musical scores, musical instruments, theatre rights, theatrical props and costuming, etc.
- Expertise to support student performances and production
- Any other needs (only limited by imagination)

The application process...

How do we apply?

Fill out and submit a Utah PTA Arts Education grant application. To obtain an application, look for the form in the fall legislature packet, call Utah PTA at (801) 261-3100, or go to www.utahpta.org.

When is it due?

March 1st

Who awards the funding?

A Utah PTA panel, arts education committee, and board; comprised of parents, educators, and community leaders.

When will funds be awarded?

Funds will be available July 1st for the fiscal year.

What else is required?

1. PTA's must submit a final report form.
2. The local PTA must give Utah PTA Arts Fund credit for any activities in any and all publicity.